(b) what steps Government are contemplating to improve the power position *fin* these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE /DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE {MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI {SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The power supply position in the Southern States 'during 1987-88 will be known after the Central Electricity Authority complete (their assessment. During the month of January, 1987, the total requirement of power by the Southern States was 4613 piillion units against which the availability »vas 4148 million units.

I (b) The steps taken to mitigate the shortage in' the Southern States include ' expeditiou, s commissioning of additional {generating capacity, early stabilisation of /newly commission units, transfer of surplus power from neighbouring Regions| States, improving the performance of existing thermal power stations etc.

Import by Punjab Electricity Board

541. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be , (pieased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab Electricity Board was allowed to import lOO tonne-tractor-trailers from Italy which involved foreign exchange expenditure of about Rs. 2. 35 crores while the equipment - was indigenously available;

(b) if so, what are the reasons there for;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said equipment has completely failed and is not working; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken against the persons responsible for this deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE . DEPARTMENT OF POWER TN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) In the year 1981, after obtaining DGTD iclearance from the indigenous angle, Punjab State Electricity Board was permitted to import I No. 200 MT self-propelled vehicle. The foreign exchange out-(go was approximately Rs. 97 lakhs.

(c) and (d) According to Punjab State Electricity Board, the equipment is not operational at present as difficulties are being experienced in obtaining spare parts.

Energy conservation in the country

, 542. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1816 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th November, 1986 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for introduction of compulsory annual energy audit in all the iadu tries; with a view to conserving energy in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE . MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI); (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present for introduction of energy an tits on a compulsory basise.

Shortag of Power

543. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will tbs xVlinister of ENERGi be pleased to state:

(a) wheiy. tr it is *a* fact that there is an acute power shnnage in Uttar Pradesh and severa. her parts of the country forcing many industries to run only for . -two to three hour- a day;, and

(b) if so. what are the reasons therefor and what action is being taken by Gov ernment to improvi' the position of power supply to the industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DFPARTMtfNT CF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF FNERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) There is shortage of power of varying degrees hi Uttar PraJcsh and many other States. Depending upon the availability of pewer

from tim 1 to t; are the States impose jcver cut, " of varying degrees on different c: asses of consume 1

(b) Th». reasons for power shortage t are increase in demand and reduced hydro-generation on. *occent* of low reservoir level. Wit? a view. 0 improve the power supply position, efTo ts are being made to expedite commissioning of new capacity, improve the perfoiirance of thermal power stations, reduce the down time of Ihermal powe; ' ststvco? on fcrced outages etc.

Loss of Coai 544. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: WiV the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of coal is lost in the transit from the coal mines to the destinations;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what arfl the estimated iOsse during the last tw. years ear-wise- and

(c) what steps are being contemplate'd by Government prevent such losses to future

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) Coal companies sell coal on FOR colliery basis. After the coal is handed over to the Railways, it is not possible for the coal companies to have any control or assessment or loss of coaj in transit. However, the Railways have taken a number of steps to prevent the loss of coal during rail transit. These steps are:

(1) As far as possible, Railway Protection Force personnel are deployed to escort block-loads of coal wagons fa crime prone areas|sections.

(2) Vulnerable yards and affected places which are prone for thefts of coal are also patrolled by armed RPF men as well as by dog squads with a view *to* tracking down the criminals indulging in theft of coal.

(3) Fixed prickets are posted [deployed in vulnerable sections|black spots to prevent theft of coal from running trains.

(4) Crime Intelligence staff of the Railways and Central Crime Bureau of Railway Board are deployed to collect crime intelligence about the activities of coal thieves and receivers and conduct raids on them for the recovery of stolen coal and arrest of criminalsjrecei-vers.

Discovery of Oil Resources....

545. SHRI KALPNATH RAI; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any new oil resources were, discovered in the off-shore regions and within the country during 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details of the same indicating their potential; and

(c) what steps are being taken to exploit those resources commercially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) Oil was discovered' in the following prospects: —

ONSHORE	
Kaikalur	Andhra Pradesh
Namti Shalmari	Assam
OFFSHORE	
R-71 CD	
CA B-42 R-7A	West Coast

The potential of the finds and the commercial exploitation will depend upon further delineating drilling.

Annual requirements of petroleum and petroleum products.....

546. SHRI KALPNATH RAI;. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual requirement of petroleum and its products;